

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A micro-system for receiving beads of different diameters and obtaining a precise positioning of said beads at preset locations in said micro-system, comprising:

- a tank that has a cavity which is fitted with blocking elements having the form of columns, said blocking elements allowing ~~to block~~ beads of different diameters to be blocked and stacked in interstices between said blocking elements in an ordered way ~~and in stacks~~, said interstices constituting said preset locations, wherein said blocking elements are distributed so as to obtain a positioning of the beads as a function of their diameters and said blocking elements are distributed so as to constitute wells intended to receive beads of a first preset diameter and spaces between the wells intended to receive beads of a second preset diameter,

- a cap hermetically sealing said tank,

- and import means and output means allowing a fluid to flow in said cavity.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The micro-system according to claim 1, wherein said blocking elements are integral with the bottom of said cavity or said cap.

Claims 3-7 (Cancelled).

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The micro-system according to claim 1, wherein said blocking elements have a transverse cross-section of a shape selected from among discs, ellipses and polygons.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The micro-system according to claim 8, wherein said blocking elements have a transverse cross-section in the shape of a hexagon.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The micro-system according to claim 1, wherein said blocking elements are of a height that allows at least two second diameter beads to be stacked in the interstices between the blocking elements.

Claims 11-12 (Cancelled).

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): A micro-reactor comprising the micro-system according to claim 1 and beads, with the same function but of different diameters, fitted between said blocking elements.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): A micro-reactor comprising the micro-system according to claim 1 and beads, of different diameters and functions, fitted between said blocking elements.

Claims 15-25 (Withdrawn).

Claim 26 (New): A micro-system for receiving beads of different diameters and obtaining a precise positioning of said beads at preset locations in said micro-system, comprising:

- a tank that has a cavity which is fitted with blocking elements having the form of columns, said blocking elements allowing beads of different diameters to be blocked in interstices between said blocking elements in an ordered way, said interstices constituting

said preset locations, wherein (1) said blocking elements are distributed and spatially arranged so as to obtain a positioning of the beads as a function of their diameters, (2) said blocking elements are distributed and spatially arranged to constitute wells intended to receive beads of a first preset diameter and spaces between the wells intended to receive beads of a second preset diameter, and (3) the traverse two-dimensional cross-section of the blocking elements in the cavity is larger than the traverse two-dimensional cross-section of the wells in the cavity,

- a cap hermetically sealing said tank,
- and import means and output means allowing a fluid to flow in said cavity.

Claim 27 (New): A micro-system for receiving beads of different diameters and obtaining a precise positioning of said beads at preset locations in said micro-system of Claim 26, wherein the traverse two-dimensional cross-section of each blocking element in the cavity is larger than the traverse two-dimensional cross-section of each well in the cavity.

Claim 28 (New): The micro-system according to claim 26, wherein said blocking elements are of a height that allows at least two second diameter beads to be stacked in the interstices between the blocking elements.

Claim 29 (New): A micro-system for receiving beads of different diameters and obtaining a precise positioning of said beads at preset locations in said micro-system, comprising:

- a tank that has a cavity which is fitted with blocking elements having the form of columns, said blocking elements allowing beads of different diameters to be blocked and stacked in interstices between said blocking elements in an ordered way, said interstices

constituting said preset locations, wherein (1) said blocking elements are distributed and spatially arranged so as to obtain a positioning of the beads as a function of their diameters, (2) said blocking elements are distributed and spatially arranged to constitute wells intended to receive beads of a first preset diameter and spaces between the wells intended to receive beads of a second preset diameter, and (3) the traverse two-dimensional cross-section of the blocking elements in the cavity is larger than the traverse two-dimensional cross-section of the spaces between the wells in the cavity,

- a cap hermetically sealing said tank,
- and import means and output means allowing a fluid to flow in said cavity.

Claim 30 (New): A micro-system for receiving beads of different diameters and obtaining a precise positioning of said beads at preset locations in said micro-system of Claim 26, wherein the traverse two-dimensional cross-section of each blocking element in the cavity is larger than the traverse two-dimensional cross-section of each space between the wells in the cavity.

Claim 31 (New): The micro-system according to claim 29, wherein said blocking elements are of a height that allows at least two second diameter beads to be stacked in the interstices between the blocking elements.